

Message Text

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12

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 COME-00 INT-08 SCEM-02 FPC-01

TRSE-00 OMB-01 DRC-01 /146 W
----- 107649

R 130600Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8113

UNCLAS TOKYO 14766

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, JA

SUBJECT: NATURAL GAS OFF PACIFIC COAST OF JAPAN

SUMMARY: TEIKOKU OIL CO. AND ESSO ABUKUMA INC. BOTH OF TOKYO
ANNOUNCED NOVEMBER 5, 1973 THAT THEY HAD JOINTLY FOUND "POSSIBLE
COMMERICAL DEPOSITS OF NATURAL GAS" IN PACIFIC CONTINENTAL SHELF ABOUT

40 KILOMETERS OFF COAST OF FUKUSHIMA PREFECTURE. SEVERAL MORE
EXPLORATORY WELLS ARE NEEDED TO DETERMINE EXACT SIZE OF DEPOSITS.

END SUMMARY

TEIKOKU OIL AND ESSO ABUKUMA, WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF EXXON CORP.,
CONFIRMED THEIR ANNOUNCEMENT OF NOVEMBER 5, 1973 THAT IWAKI NO. 1
WELL DRILLED IN JOBAN COAST OF FUKUSHIMA PREFECTURE DISCOVERED
"POSSIBLE

COMMERCIAL DEPOSITS OF NATURAL GAS" ON NOVEMBER 1 AND 2.

ANNOUNCEMENT SAID THAT IWAKI NO. 1 DISCOVERY WELL IS FIRST
EXPLORATORY

WELL DRILLED UNDER TEIKOKU-ESSO PROJECT, AND FIRST WELL DRILLED
IN PACIFIC COAST OF JAPAN. COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES STATED THAT
TEST WELL PRODUCED 320,000

CUBIC METES GAS A DAY THROUGH 14 MILLIMETER BEAN (SPECIAL MOZZLE).

FIRMS ADDED THAT ADDITIONAL EXPLORATORY WORK AND EVALUATION
STUDIES NEEDED BEFORE FULL SIGNIFICANCE OF DISCOVERY AT IWAKI

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NO. 1 CAN BE DETERMINED. COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION METHODS ARE

DIFFERENT FROM TESTING METHODS AND USUALLY INVOLVE NUMBER OF
WELLS. ALTHOUGH TEST FIGURE THEREFORE NOT DIRECTLY COMPARABLE
TO COMMERCIAL FIGURES, TEST FIGURE FOR ONE WELL IS EQUIVALENT ON
ANNUAL BASIS TO ABOUT 5 PERCENT OF JAPANESE PRODUCTION OF
NATURAL GAS IN CY72.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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